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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/626,208	07/24/2003	John Favazza	063170.6567(20000432)	9671
5073	7590	10/03/2007	EXAMINER	
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.			GELAGAY, SHEWAYE	
2001 ROSS AVENUE				
SUITE 600			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
DALLAS, TX 75201-2980			2137	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			10/03/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ptomail1@bakerbotts.com
glenda.orrantia@bakerbotts.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/626,208	FAVAZZA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Shewaye Gelagay	2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/31/07.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,3,5-8 and 24-35 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,3,5-8 and 24-35 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on August 31, 2007 has been entered.

2. Claims 1, 3, 5-8 and 24-35 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. In view of the amendment filed August 31, 2007, the Examiner withdraws the rejection of claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. In view of the amendment filed August 31, 2007, the Examiner withdraws the rejection of claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed on August 31, 2007 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1, 3, 5-8 and 24-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flurry et al. U.S. Publication Number 2003/0061512 (hereinafter Flurry) in view of Mishra et al. ("Security Services Markup Language", January 8, 2001 (hereinafter Mishra)

[Note: "XML Key Management Specification (XKMS)", W3C Note 30, March 2001, pages 28-45, is used to further elaborate on the teaching of XML signature and HMAC taught by Mishra reference]

As per claims 1, 7, 26 and 32:

Flurry teaches a method comprising intercepting at an agent a web service customer access to a first web service, the agent residing between the web service customer and the first web service and between the web service customer and a second web service; (page 7, paragraph 70; ASP Aggregator service 404) collecting at the agent one or more credentials of the web service customer; (page 7, paragraph 71; The ASP Aggregator generates an authentication challenge, i.e., logon page...) determining at the agent whether the web service customer is authenticated and authorized; (Page 7, paragraph 72; ASP Aggregator service has authenticated the user) if the web service customer is authenticated and authorized, at the agent: granting the first request; initiating creation of a session and a session ticket; obtaining a session ticket ID for the session ticket; (page 7, paragraphs 73-75; after the ASP aggregator

service has authenticated the user...the ASP aggregator then generates an application authentication token that is appropriate for the user and the selected application. The client's request is modified to include the application authentication token...and directed to a specific URL) intercepting a second request to grant the web service customer access to the second web service, the second request comprising the assertion and a private key; (page 5, paragraph 54- page 6, paragraph 60; ASP aggregator may use a variety of security technique... message authentication code (MAC), ...PKCS; page 9, paragraphs 88-90; since the client has been previously authenticated ...the ASP aggregator would immediately generate the application authentication token that is needed with respect to the second aggregated application. After the second aggregated application is received and verified, the user may interact with the second aggregated application) and if the private key matches the public key in the assertion, grant the second request without reauthenticating or reauthorizing the web service customer. (page 9, paragraphs 88-90; since the client has been previously authenticated ...the ASP aggregator would immediately generate the application authentication token that is needed with respect to the second aggregated application. After the second aggregated application is received and verified, the user may interact with the second aggregated application) Flurry does not explicitly disclose encrypting the session ticket ID and a public key into an assertion and matching a private key with the public key in the assertion. Mishra in analogues art, however, discloses encrypting the session ticket ID and a public key into an assertion and matching a private key with the public key in

the assertion. (page 11, 4. Architecture; ...assertions must be signed using the framework described in the [XML-SIG] specification...supports both using secret-key (for example, HMAC) and public-key signing; page 31 MIME Binding) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Flurry with Mishra in order to provide security services for assertions that may travel across the Internet and be scrutinized and checked for validity far from the point of origin. (page 11; Mishra)

As per claims 3, 8 and 27:

The combination of Flurry and Mishra teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Flurry further discloses a method wherein the assertion comprises a Security Assertions Markup Language (SAML) assertion. (page 3, paragraph 34)

As per claims 5 and 28:

The combination of Flurry and Mishra teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Flurry further discloses a method wherein the agent comprises an Extensible Markup Language (XML) agent. (page 3, paragraph 34)

As per claims 6 and 29:

The combination of Flurry and Mishra teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Flurry further discloses a method wherein the processors are further operable to determine whether the web service customer is authenticated and authorized comprises comparing the web service customer with a database containing authentication and authorization data. (page 7, paragraph 72)

As per claims 24 and 30:

The combination of Flurry and Mishra teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Flurry further discloses a method wherein the first request and the second request both originate at the web service customer; and the method further comprising communicating the assertion to the web service customer to enable the web service customer to access the second web service without reauthentication or reauthorization after the web service customer accesses the first web service. (page 7, paragraph 71; page 9, paragraphs 88-90)

As per claims 25, 31 and 35:

The combination of Mishra and Hallam-Baker teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Flurry further discloses a method wherein the first request originates at the web service customer and the second request originates at the first web service; and the method further comprising communicating the assertion to the first web service to enable the web service customer to access the second web service without reauthentication or reauthorization after the web service customer accesses the first web service. (page 7, paragraph 71; page 9, paragraphs 88-90)

As per claim 33:

The combination of Mishra and Hallam-Baker teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Mishra further discloses a method comprising at the agent, placing the assertion into a header; sending the assertion to the first web service; returning the assertion to the web service

consumer. (page 7, 3 S2ML Use Case Scenarios; assertions can travel with the user in various ways...http headers)

As per claim 34:

The combination of Mishra and Hallam-Baker teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Mishra further discloses a method wherein the second request comprises an XML document containing the assertion; and wherein the web service customer has signed the XML document with the private key. (page 11, 4. Architecture)

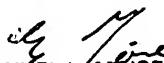
Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shewaye Gelagay whose telephone number is 571-272-4219. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Shewaye Gelagay



EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER